



## ABOUT NEF

NEF was launched in May 2012 in partnership with the Nairobi-based Centre for African Bio-Entrepreneurship (CABE) at Busijo Secondary School near Lake Victoria in western Kenya. Born in response to a community's plea to promote 'girl-child' education, NEF's mission is to enhance learning conditions and improve access to education for girls so that they can positively shape their futures.

**We envision a world that values education for all, where educating youth is a shared responsibility so that everyone may live to their fullest potential.**

For the first three years, NEF was operated as a pilot project, and then in 2015 it was formalized as a charitable project under the umbrella of the Zawadisha Fund, a U.S./Kenyan non-profit organization. Project management and fundraising is handled by Jessica Peyla Nagtalon, co-founder of NEF, and operated on the ground by one to two local staff members with oversight at Busijo Secondary School provided by an Advisory Committee with members including the Deputy Principal, the Director of Studies and three teachers (one male & two female).

With generous support from sponsors in the United States and Europe, NEF operates a comprehensive sponsorship program. NEF offers scholarships, new uniforms, shoes, books, solar lanterns, feminine supplies, mentorship, and training to empower girls and young women. NEF also supports and co-organizes annual student workshop that provides the entire school population with access to locally-facilitated training on valuable topics such as responsible personal conduct and behavior, life skills, sex education, HIV/AIDS and STDs, goal-setting, mental health, career guidance and college preparation. Overall, our program builds self-esteem, healthy values/habits, a strong work ethic, a sense of community and valuable leadership skills. NEF works closely with school administrators, teachers, and parents to provide a conducive and safe learning environment, customizing support services to achieve greater impact.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE: 2012-2022

Here is an overview of what NEF and our students have accomplished since NEF was launched in 2012.

- ❖ 10 years in operation
- ❖ 25 scholarships awarded
  - 10 current secondary students; 2 current tertiary students
  - 13 high school graduates
  - 8 students have gone on for tertiary education, covering fields in nursing, ECD, education, and business management and hospitality
- ❖ 5 health/wellness workshops
- ❖ 1 career guidance seminar for college preparation which benefited 300 students
- ❖ 114 students and 4 teachers received HIV/Aids Test (testing was voluntary & available for the entire school)
- ❖ 7 students received computer training at Bumble Technical Training Institute
- ❖ 1 audio/visual projector donated to the school
- ❖ 1 laptop and modem
- ❖ 7 hand washing facilities provided to three sister schools of Busijo, Bujwang`a and Namnyweda
- ❖ 30 assorted revision textbooks
- ❖ 1,700 face masks for school staff, students & community members
- ❖ Feminine hygiene supplies provided to the female students at Busijo Secondary School
- ❖ 3 bicycles for students to use for transport to/from school.

## Program Highlights

### Student Sponsorship



Sponsorship is currently open for female students starting from Form 1 and continuing through graduation, provided that the student maintains a good academic standing. To be eligible, a student must have a C or higher and submit an application along with a letter of support. In 2021-22, NEF added eight new female students to our list of beneficiaries, which brings the current total number of scholarship recipients to 12 (10 high school students, 2 tertiary students). This is the most students we have supported at any one time. Visit our website to read [brief bios](#) about each of our students.

2021 NEF scholarship students with their books, solar lanterns and shoes. (Photo courtesy of Anne Truphosa, June 2021.)

### Annual NEF Student Workshops

Each year, NEF sponsors a 1-day student workshop, open to the entire student body at Busijo Secondary School. Themes are selected in partnership with the students and they have included health and wellness, sex education, STDs and responsible conduct, self-esteem and peer pressure, college advising and goal setting, as well as HIV/Aids testing. In 2021, the workshop focused on mental health. Nearly 350 students (only 10 didn't show up) and staff gathered on a sunny Saturday. The goal was to provide a safe space and equip the students with tools to talk about mental health.



Facilitator addressing the students. (Anne Truphosa, 2021.)

### Monitoring and Evaluation

Each term, the beneficiaries meet with NEF staff and the School Advisory Committee to review their academic progress and discuss any challenges they are facing. NEF also meets with the students' parents/guardians during the school year. Beneficiaries are required to maintain a C plain or higher to keep their support from NEF. Other criteria include significant financial need; discipline, dedication to one's studies and display leadership qualities.

## CHALLENGES

- Limited Parental/guardian support and engagement in their child's education
- Early pregnancy
- Student focus and struggle to raise grades above C-
- Limited resources
- Negative peer influence

## CONTACT INFO

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Additional NEF reports can be accessed on the website: <https://www.nasirumbi.org/impact-report-2020>